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## Note verbale dated 4 April 2006 from the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretariat

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretariat of the United Nations and has the honour to inform the latter that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has decided to present its candidature for membership of the United Nations Human Rights Council in the elections to be held on 9 May 2006.

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**Annex to the note verbale dated 4 April 2006 from the Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretariat**

The Permanent Mission of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions to the United Nations and has the honor to inform the latter, that the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran has decided to presents its candidature for Membership of the Human Rights Council in the elections to be held by the General Assembly on May 9, 2006 in New York.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is committed to the promotion and protection of human rights at the national level, and continues to contribute to the international machinery of human rights including the newly established Human Rights Council in order to realize the advancement of universally accepted human rights standards. Iran recognizes that human rights, development and international peace and security are interlinked and mutually reinforcing.

Evidently, the participation of different countries from all regions with various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds, in the Human Rights Council will essentially enrich the common understanding of human rights, contribute to the further enhancement of global partnership built to promote human rights, and advance the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights throughout the world.

The Islamic Republic of Iran has taken a number of steps towards the realization of human rights goals, in particular through an enhanced cooperation with the international community. In this context, Iran, as the first country in the region, has extended an open invitation to all Special Procedures to visit the country-some of which have already taken place. Furthermore, it has initiated and implemented broad-based, comprehensive and nation-wide common human rights projects with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and UNDP in recent years, and envisions even wider cooperation with these bodies in future at different local and national levels. Iran has also engaged with a number of countries on human rights dialogue with a view to promote mutual understanding and cooperation on various aspects of this important issue.

Clearly, the Human Rights Council is expected to address the shortcomings experienced in the Commission on Human Rights as undermined the credibility of the Commission over the past years. The Islamic Republic of Iran, if elected, will spare no

efforts to assist the international community to safeguard the Human Rights Council from injustice, double-standards and politicization. It will also do its utmost to promote objectivity, impartiality and non- selectivity in all spheres of the work of the Council.

The Islamic Republic of Iran attaches great importance to the international efforts to enhance dialogue and broaden understanding among civilizations, cultures and religions. Indeed, at no time, the international community has been in a more dire and urgent need of a concerted effort to promote dialogue among civilizations and respect for cultural diversity than today. The United Nations has rightly increased its focus on these initiatives across the globe in an attempt to build understanding and friendly relations among different peoples and nations. Iran will continue its efforts, within the Human Rights Council, to help international community to reach its potentials in this regard and make the goal of universal respect for cultural diversity, through dialogue and cooperation, a reality.

In light of the above, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran seeks the valuable support of the Member States to the United Nations for its candidature to the Human Rights Council and highly appreciates it.